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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Is the patent application of  
Keisuke Ban

Docket No. 02410265D1

Serial No.: 10/726,685

Group Art Unit No.: 1725

Filed: December 4, 2003

Examiner: Lin, Kuang Y.

For: **CASTING METHOD AND CASTING APPARATUS**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Sir:

Under the provisions of 37 CFR §1.97 through §1.99 and pursuant to applicant's duty of disclosure under 37 CFR §1.56, applicant respectfully brings the following document, cited in an foreign office action and listed on the attached form PTO-1449, to the attention of the Examiner in charge of the above-identified application.

This citation does not constitute an admission that the reference is relevant or material to the claims. It is only cited as constituting related art of which the applicant is aware.

I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication received from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

It is respectfully requested that the listed references be considered by the Examiner and formally made of record in this application.

A check in the amount of \$180.00 is enclosed as payment of the fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p). Please charge any deficiencies in payment and credit any overpayments to Attorney's deposit account no. 23-1951.

Respectfully submitted,

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